

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GABORO 01702 061631Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 IO-13 SSO-00 INRE-00
NSCE-00 ICAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 EB-08
OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /110 W
-----085649 061700Z /47

O P 061436Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2410
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BANGUI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAKAR PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DARESSALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LOME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 1702

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E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, MOPS, EFIN, EAID, BC
SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON RECOVERY OF ZAIRE

REF: STATE 137343

1. I RAISED SUBSTANCE OF REFTEL WITH EXTAFF SECRETARY

MPOTOKWANE JUNE 4. MPOTOKWANE AS USUAL GAVE NONCOMMIT-TAL REPLY BUT INDICATED THAT HE APPROVED THE IDEA OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES PROVIDING THE FORCES WITH USG AND OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES FURNISHING ONLY LOGISTICAL SUPPORT. THIS HE FOUND "REASSURING".

2. EXTAFF DEPUTY SECRETARY MOGAMI TOLD EMBOFF JUNE 5 THAT GOB HAS NOT YET FORMULATED ITS "OFFICIAL" VIEWS ON FORMATION AND DEPLOYMENT OF SHABA SECURITY FORCE OR RECENT PARIS DISCUSSIONS ON POSSIBLE ECONOMIC SUP-PORT FOR ZAIRE. MOGAMI GAVE US HIS "PERSONAL VIEW" THAT DEPLOYMENT OF AFRICAN SECURITY FORCE IN SHABA AS WELL AS LIMITED U.S. ROLE WOULD ENJOY WIDESPREAD AFRICAN SUPPORT BECAUSE AN ESTABLISHED AFRICAN GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN INVADDED BY EXTERNAL FORCES. HOWEVER, MOGAMI WAS SKEPTICAL OF ANY SCHEME TO INSTITUTIONALIZE INTER-AFRICAN SECURITY FORCE BECAUSE OF DANGER THAT AFRICA WOULD BE DIVIDED INTO COMPETING ARMED "CAMPS". HE POINTED OUT THAT MANY AFRICAN STATES ALREADY HAVE SECUR-ITY "ARRANGEMENTS" WITH EXTERNAL POWERS WHICH HAVE HIS-TORICALLY DIVIDED OAU AT CRUCIAL PERIODS, SUCH AS ANGOLA CRISIS. MOGAMI PREDICTED THAT UPCOMING OAU SUMMIT WOULD BE CRITICAL TEST OF AFRICAN UNITY.

3. COMMENT: GOB/ZAIRE RELATIONS ARE NOT PARTICULARLY CLOSE AND AVERSION TO MOBUTU'S REGIME IS WIDESPREAD. CONFIDENTIAL

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NEVERTHELESS, GOB OFFICIALS HAVE AN EVEN STRONGER AVER-SION TO OVERTHROW OF EXISTING AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS BY ILLEGAL AND VIOLENT MEANS. MOREOVER, THERE IS LITTLE CONFIDENCE AMONG GOB OFFICIALS THAT ANY SUCCESSOR REGIME WOULD BE ABLE TO DO MUCH BETTER THAN HAS MOBUTU IN HOLD-ING ZAIRE TOGETHER. ON BALANCE, GOB WILL THEREFORE PRIVATELY SUPPORT AND EVEN APPLAUD ORGANIZATION AND DEPLOYMENT OF SHABA SECURITY FORCE AS WELL AS WESTERN EFFORTS TO SHORE UP MOBUTU REGIME ECONOMICALLY. UNTIL VIEWS OF OTHER AFRICAN STATES IN THE REGION BECOME KNOWN, HOWEVER, IT IS UNLIKELY GOB WILL VOLUNTEER ANY PUBLIC STATEMENT OF ITS VIEWS. GIVEN ITS OWN SECURITY PROBLEMS IT WOULD, OF COURSE, NOT BE IN A POSITION TO ASSIST. NORLAND

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 06 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition History: n/a
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